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The Bloomfield Record.

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Devoted to the Interests of Bloomfield, the Oranges, Glen Ridge, Montclair, and the various Suburban Districts of Essex County.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., FRIDAY JULY 16, 1897.

PRICE THREE CENT

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The price for advertisements in this column will be one cent for each word for not less than fifteen words. Advertising should be received at this office before 10 o'clock Friday.

FOUR SALE—Lot on Glenwood Avenue, near Main St., Orange, 25 ft. front, Worth \$1000. Will be sold for \$750. Apply to "RECORD OFFICE."

To Rent.
House No. 15 Benson Street, Bloomfield, Seven Rooms, All Improvements. Rent low to a good tenant. Inquire at The Record Office, 29 Broad St.

Dr. Grace E. White,
Office, 35 Broad St.
Hours 2 to 4 P. M. Telephone 45.

DENTISTRY =

At the lowest prices consistent with first-class workmanship.

DR. SEYMOUR BOUGHTON,
For many years with Dr. H. D. Allen, the eminent Surgeon Dental of New York City, is now prepared to receive patients in his new dental office, 17 Cedar St., Newark. Teeth extracted painlessly by use of new anesthetic. Simple cases requiring scientific dental surgery are respectfully solicited.

OPEN EVENINGS.
No. 17 CEDAR ST., NEWARK.

The Central Pharmacy.

D. ROSENBAUM, Ph. D.

Druggist and Chemist.

Prescriptions put up at All Hours, Day and Night.

CENTRAL PHARMACY, BLOOMFIELD.

Pure Drugs, Chemicals, Toilet Articles, &c.

GEORGE M. WOOD,
PHARMACIST.

20 BROAD STREET,

2 Hours Above Post Office. BLOOMFIELD

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN

To the Accurate Compounding of Physician's Prescriptions

OPEN SUNDAYS

From 9 A. M. to 1 P. M. From 3 to 6 P. M.

And from 7 to 9 in the evening.

LOUIS J. MEUSER,

PHARMACEUTICAL
AND

Dispensing Chemist,

PARK PHARMACY

178 Broad St. Bloomfield

Prescriptions carefully compounded day or night at city prices

FOR DURABILITY And STYLISH GOODS

GO TO

THE UNIVERSAL BOOT & SHOE STORE,

308 Glenwood Ave.

All Goods Warranted. A full line

Men's, Boys' Youths' Ladies' Misses' &

Children's Shoes.

ALL KINDS REPAIRING DONE

In a Workmanlike Manner.

PHILIP BATZLE, Prop'r.

PUT THIS DOWN,

and you'll save money; neglect it and you'll lose. You need for your outing stay toilet requisites, namely: tooth, hair, nail, and bath brushes; bath towels, sponges, mittens, soap; tooth powders, hair tonics, perfumes, and Petty's witch hazel. Every other article you may need is here—better in quality and lower priced than elsewhere.

Go to Petty's,

Prudential Pharmacy,

Broad, north of Market St., Newark.

Petty's other store 925 Broad St.

NEVER CLOSED Prudential Pharmacy.

PETTY: HE PUTS UP PERSSCRIPTIONS

OPEN ALL NIGHT.

PETTY'S AND

PRUDENTIAL 925 Broad St.

HARMACY, NEWARK, N. J.

Martin J. Callahan,

CONTRACTOR.

Flagging, Curbing and Paving.

A supply of Doorsteps, Window

sills and Caps, and Cellar Steps co-

stantly on hand.

STONE YARD: ON GLENWOOD AVE.

NEAR D. L. & W. R. R. DEPOT.

RESPONDENCE THOMAS

THE TRUE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT.

BY ELTWEED POMEROY, PRESIDENT NA-
TIONAL DIRECT LEGISLATION LEAGUE.

When a form of government is put into operation in which interest coincides with justice, then rapidity of progress is only dependent on the intelligence, energy and experience of governors and governed.

If interest does not coincide with justice, such is the frailty of human nature that interest in time will triumph and a government founded on injustice will ensue. Such a government, no matter how splendid and powerful it may seem, bears within it the seeds of decay and death. Such was Spain at the height of her glory when the empire of Charles V. exceeded that of Rome. It is now crumbling and its people retrograding.

At times the innate righteousness of some ruler temporarily stops or even reverses the progress toward injustice, but with his death or apostasy the inevitable trend begins again. Such was the reign of the Roman Emperor, Marcus Aurelius.

At times the framework of the government may have been so firmly knit that it requires a long period, perchance centuries, for the injustice to filter down to the masses, but when that happens the foundations of society are gone and dissolution follows. There are centuries in the early history of the Roman Empire when, while the heads were corrupt and unjust, the masses were governed in a stable and relatively just manner.

A government founded on injustice cannot permanently endure. Justice gives stability and permanency to a government. Interest is the motive or directing power. If the two do not coincide, interest directs it toward injustice, the government becomes unstable and finally something topples it over and anarchy ensues. But where interest—motive power—and justice—stability—coincide, progress is only dependent on the intelligence, energy and experience of governors and governed.

From this it follows that the supremely important question is: In what form of government does interest most nearly coincide with justice? Is it in a monarchy, where one man rules? No; because the interest of the one man does not always or even often coincide with justice to the subjects. Its advocates put out the doctrine of the divine right of kings to rule. Before it became too transparently absurd these rulers used to claim that they were descended from the gods and of a finer and different breed from the rest of mankind, who should serve and obey them. Such governments in time become either more unjust and decay or less monarchical and advance.

Does justice coincide with interest in an aristocracy, the government by a few? No; because it is the tendency of the few to use the powers for their own interest, even unjustly. They try to justify this by calling themselves aristocrats, or the best people, implying that the rest of the people should serve them. Hence such governments either become more and more unjust and retrograde or else they widen the governing body, become less aristocratic and unjust and more stable. The latter is largely the history of the English people.

Does justice coincide with interest in a representative government where the people choose, for longer or shorter periods, the rulers to govern them? The theory is that they choose the wisest and most trustworthy and that these officers, when chosen, retain and exercise these qualities.

At first, in this country, the answer seemed to be yes. The representatives elected frequently from a homogeneous and nearly equally wealthy people, and having comparatively few and simple problems to decide, responded readily to the popular will, and the beginning of a just and rapidly progressive government was made.

But as its functions became more and more varied and important and as the wealth of the country increased and concentrated, it soon became evident that the interest of the ruler after election did not coincide with justice to all the people. It either was or could easily be made the interest of a class, the corporations or organized wealth-owners. The tradition of an ideal legislator for a time hindered the rapid domination of class interest and injustice. The enlarged publicity of the newspapers and modern life partially stopped it. The frequency of elections retire the most gross and open corruptionists, but not the subtlest and most dangerous. This tradition is well nigh dead and the legislators have thrown up a great cloud of laws and vastly increased the complexity of public business that they may hide themselves from publicity.

Because of this corruption, we are fast

progressing toward injustice and instability in our government. The evidence of this is the recent civil wars at Homestead, Chicago, Coeur d'Alene, etc. Smothering these is not curing the disease, but sitting on the safety valve. The famous French scholar, LeClerc, an impartial observer, says: "On one side the revolutionary masses blinded by anger, and on the other the most corrupting and monstrous evolution of millionaires and monopolists." The underlying reason is that justice does not coincide with interest in our government, and so interest directs and our government becomes unjust.

Representative government has been tested on these shores for over a century. In many cases it is better than the older forms. It has been acclaimed a finality. But it has borne its legitimate fruits, and they are the dead sea apples of corruption and insidious injustice. Representative government is a failure.

If we pursue the path we now are treading, a strong government, buttressed by force, is necessary, and that will be followed by anarchy, death, retrogression.

Interest coincides with justice, not in government, but in self-government; not in any form of rule by others, but in pure democracy, where the people rule themselves. Where the people vote or are able to vote on every law by which they are to be governed, then interest coincides with justice. Where each man has to decide both what is due from himself to others and to the state and also to himself from others and from the state, then it is to his interest that that decision should be just. He may err through lack of understanding, but experience will remedy that. He will not err because it is to his interest to oppress others because the others will have an equal voice with him in making the law.

When true democracy or self-government is achieved, progress will only depend on the intelligence, energy and experience of the governors, who are also the governed. By uniting the two classes, governors and governed, and making them the same, we make interest coincide with justice. These two cannot coincide as long as the governors are not the same as the governed.

Law is largely a matter of definitions—definitions of the rights and duties of each to the other and to the state. In the manipulation of these definitions lurks much of the injustice of our present government. If the making of these definitions is left to one man, a king, or to a few men chosen by birth, an hereditary aristocracy, these definitions are made in the interest of the makers. If it is left without check to a few men elected by the people, a representative government, then these definitions are made in the interest of those men who persuade or purchase a majority of the representatives. The first is oftentimes an honest oppression, as it is very easy for a man or a set of men to persuade themselves that they are better than their neighbors and hence entitled to more consideration. The latter is always dishonest and adds that evil to its oppression and injustice.

Leave the final decision on these definitions to the whole people and each man or class in the community will not ask less than justice for themselves and the whole community will be unwilling to grant more than justice to any part of it. Interest coincides with justice.

This can be attained through Direct Legislation, the Initiative and Referendum.

By the Initiative a reasonable minority of the voters, say five per cent, can propose any measure as a law, and this proposal, after discussion and amendment, both in legislative halls and before the people, goes to a vote of the people. By the Referendum, any law passed by the legislative council, when petitioned for by a reasonable minority of the voters, say five per cent, is referred to a vote of the people interested for acceptance or rejection.

Transcending and embracing all questions of the finance, the tariff, taxation, etc., is this fundamental one, shall the people rule or be ruled? Shall organized wealth, with its subtle corruption, govern the people or shall the people govern themselves through Direct Legislation? Other questions are but a part of this great question.

Let us by Direct Legislation, make justice coincide with interest in our government, thus gaining stability and progress.

Settle it and the solution of all other questions will follow in time and with experience.

Leave it unsettled and other reforms can only be attained by entangling

alliances and concessions which render a

triumph of the reform largely nugatory.

Meantime a rapid and largely unrecorded

progress toward injustice will make this

fundamental reform more difficult.

From The New Time.

THAT AWFUL WIRE FENCE.

It Blights the Landscape and Bothers the Commuters.

A stranger visiting this town for the first time, upon alighting from the train on the Erie Branch at the Glen Ridge station, is confronted by a wire fence, covered with barbarous wire enclosing two sides of the large three-cornered plot of ground close up to the railroad and street lines. The visitor's first inquiry naturally would be: "For what purpose is that horrid fence?" "Is there a lunatic asylum here or a prison that must be shut in in this manner?"

The stranger can get no very satisfactory answer.

To everybody (except the builders) the fence is a conundrum.

Early in the spring, when the triangle was first being plowed up, a citizen who stood by and appeared to be superintendent of the job, was asked: "What are you going to plant there?" The astute citizen paused, thrusting his hands deep into his pockets, with a facetious smile, said: "Railroad spikes."

No better or more satisfactory answer

has been given, so far as THE RECORD

knows, to other numerous inquiries that

have been made touching the why and

wherefore of the fence.

To throw some light upon it, the records

of the Township of Bloomfield have been

examined, and from these it appears con-

clusive that there are two distinct private

interests sought to be served by the erec-

tion of this fence. Other facts of more

recent occurrence in the administration of

Glen Ridge Borough go to show that pri-

ate spite has a good deal to do with the

shutting off of the short cut from Forest

Avenue to the railroad station.

It is the province and intention of this

paper, however, to fairly discuss only the

main issues involved—namely the rights of

the public in two important avenues of the

township and the beautiful dis-

trict opened up by said avenues is filled up

with residences.

The records show that Benson Street,

running east from Broad Street to High-

land Avenue, was surveyed and thrown

open to the public in 1869. Forest Avenue

was opened about the same time along

Chestnut Hill crest. It started at Bay

Lane and ended by intersection with Ben-

son Street. The first house built upon

either of these avenues was that of the

publisher of this newspaper, which was

erected in 1870. The next was the De